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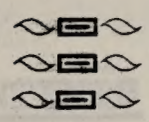

With the Descendants of Obediah W. Knight

Compiled by
E. B. Comstock and V. S. Albertson
1932

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TO MY FRIEND

Contributed at a Dinner on the
Occasion of Sixty-sixth Birthday
of Epps G. Knight by his Life Long
Friend and Neighbor--

Charles B. Gillespie

The "Knights of old" were some bold cavaliers,
But they hadn't a thing on ours,
For we've known our Knight thru all these years,
And we cheerfully hand him the flowers.

Though three score and six, he's still a young Knight,
And ever stands ready to do,
The things that are right with all of his might,
And he turns quite a lot of them too.

So here's to a friend, a neighbor, a man,
Who never deserted his post,
Who stands four square, is under no ban,
We mention our Knight--the host.

FOREWORD

It has been a pleasure and privilege to have compiled this history of one of the pioneer families of Dallas, who settled here before the city was even a cluster of scattered log huts in the wilderness, and who, in each succeeding generation, has contributed to its professional and commercial life. We, the compilers, hope that we have done our task well, and to the satisfaction of the surviving members of the Knight family at whose instigation it was undertaken.

In our task we have encountered the usual difficulties that attend any genealogical investigation- the fallibility of human memory, the absence or inaccessibility of authentic family records, the rapid removal and dispersion of a man's children, which in a country as restless and enterprising as America constitutes one of the genealogist's principal problems. The facts in this book came from many sources - the court records of Texas, Virginia, and Tennessee, the records of the United States Census Bureau, old histories of Dallas County such as that of John Henry Brown, the reverences to the

Knight family, which have appeared from time to time in the local press, but our chief dependence has been upon the information supplied by various members of the Knight family who still live in Dallas, and by others who have married into the family.

We wish to thank particularly Mrs. Robert E. Knight, who supplied us with most of the basic facts, and Mr. Howard B. Knight, who made possible the map of the old Knight plantation that we have included; we are also indebted, to R. E. L. Knight, Epps G. Knight, Mrs. W. C. Lemmon, Mrs. Charles W. Flynn, Epps Knight Cannon, Mrs. Whitfield Harral, Mrs. K. V. Lipscomb, Mrs. J. P. Griffin, and W. Hughes Knight all of whom supplied us with dates and other specific information involving their own particular branches of the family. We sincerely trust that they and others will find in this book a trustworthy and relatively complete record of all the essential facts concerning Obadiah W. Knight and his descendants between the years 1846 and 1932.

E. B. Comstock

V. S. Albertson

Dallas, Texas

November, 1932

THE KNIGHT FAMILY IN DALLAS

A public School in the City of Dallas was given the name of The Obadiah Knight School ~~in the fall of 1930.~~ Aug. 18, 1925. It received its name from one of the city's early pioneers, who came to Dallas from Tennessee in 1846. Obadiah W. Knight was thirty-eight years of age at the time of his arrival and his wife, Serenah C. Hughes, twenty-four. He brought with him from Tennessee, five children by his first wife, Mary Ann Knight, who was no relative of Obadiah's, although her maiden name was the same as his. The names of these children who were born in Tenn. were William, aged 11, John, 10, Mary, 7, Elizabeth, 5, and Garriel, 3.

Obadiah's, brother, Gabriel, preceded Obadiah by nearly two years. Gabriel never married but lived with Obadiah's family for many years, even after the latter's death. William Epps Knight, another brother of Obadiah W. Knight, went to Athens, Mississippi. He was a physician. He had three children: William Epps Knight, Obe Knight and Margy Knight. William Epps Knight now lives at 2904 Oneal Street, Greenville, Texas.
He is the father of William and Martha Knight.
Obe Knight's address is box 34, Amory, Miss.

With the Knight family there came Obadiah's brother-in-law, William J. Walker who had married Sarah, Obadiah's sister. Their children:

Joe, Marcus, Ann, who married Dr. Perry Dakan, Martha and Burl. Among the early settlers in Dallas at about the same time were the following: William H. Hord, William B. Elam, W. Hamp Witt, A. J. Witt, Pleasant Witt, Thomas M. Ellis, John H. Daniel, D. W. Reedy, two brothers, Adam and Samuel Haught, John W. Smith, James M. Patterson, John Thomas, James A. Coats, Marion A. Coats, Thomas D. Coats, John McCoy, Samuel Beeman, William Traughber, I. N. Webb, John R. Fondren, Thomas Collins, Albert G. Collins, Rev. James A. Smith, R. E. Rawlins, Wormley Carter, Asher W. Carter, John Anderson, and a bachelor, Marquis de Lafayette Gracey. There were also two brothers-in-law of Obadiah Knight: George W. Record and T. C. Williams.

It was on March 30, 1846, that the state legislature passed an act creating the countr of Dallas:

> "Beginning on the southern boundary line of Fanning County, three miles east of the eastern boundary of Peter's Colony grant; thence south thirty miles, thence west thirty miles, thence north thirty miles to Fannin County line, thence east with said line to the beginning."

---

1. Brown, John Henry, History of Dallas County--Milligan, Cornet, & Franklin, Dallas, 1887, p, 19.

This act gave to the county a total area of 900 square miles or 576,000 acres. By another act of the legislature, April 18, 1846.

> "Dallas shall be the seat of justice of Dallas County, and all the courts for said county shall be thereat."[2]

Another act of May 12, 1846

> "Appointed John Meely Bryan to appointing managers or order an election for organizing Dallas County."[3]
> (He was ordered to issue certificates to all persons elected and make returns to the Secretary of State.)

On March 20, 1848, an act of the legislature was passed providing for an election for the permanent location of the county seat. The question was not settled. On January 11, 1850, another election was ordered for August 1850. The vote stood:

Dallas	191
Hord's Ridge (O. C.)	178
Cedar Springs	101
	470

On August 31, at a second election the result was:[4]

Dallas	244
Hord's Ridge	216
	460

2. From Brown, op. cit., p. 19
3. Ibid
4. Figures from Brown, op. cit., p. 20.

It was in this history-making period of time that Obadiah Knight began to be active in local politics. In the three-cornered election of August 1850, he was stoutly backing Cedar Springs and apparently had a clear majority. A broken cable defeated him, however. A number of settlers were trying to cross to the west bank of the Trinity at what is now the foot of Commerce. Street. The ferry cable broke most opportunely, however, and the resulting delay of several days resulted in their votes being taken where they were. A little adroit lobbying by the ferryman and others was all that was necessary to swing the election for Dallas.

Obadiah Knight was a prosperous farmer, who had, at the time of the Civil War, forty-two slaves, all of whom remained with him for a year after the Emancipation Proclamation, and some of whom continued to work the farm for his widow for years after Obadiah's death.

With many other settlers he came to Texas because of the advertising that was put out by the promoters of the Peter's Colony.

This colony was created by an act of the Texan Congress on Feb. 4, 1841. This colony extended from Red River to Ellis County and was wide enough to take in practically all of Dallas County. It gave to Joseph Carroll, Henry J. Peters and others, the right to bring in immigrants. This company had its headquarters at Louisville, Kentucky. It advertised extensively and brought in many excellent settlers from Kentucky, Tennessee, Illinois, Missouri and other Southern states.

Before the arrival of Obadiah Knight in 1846, what is now Dallas County east of the Trinity belonged to Nacogdoches County, while all west of the Trinity belonged to Robertson County. To do jury service, required a trip of 200 miles to Nacogdoches, or 150 miles to Franklin on the road to Houston.

In 1847, Obadiah Knight gave three acres of land for school purposes, deeding the land to George W. Record, T. C. Williams, John Howell, and O. W. Knight, Trustee. ~~In Oad Lawn~~ He built a school house costing him $300 in gold. This school was located a mile

northwest of Oak Lawn on Maple Lawn and Lemmon Ave. Roads. The present Maple Lawn school is on Maple Lawn and Cedar Springs Road about 1/4 mile south of this old school, and on the Obadiah Knight Farm. He hauled the lumber for this building from the piney woods of East Texas, using his own oxen and negroes. The old school was called the Cedar Springs academy.*

The United States Census records of 1850, 1860, and 1870 at Washington show the personnel of his family.

1850 CENSUS

Name	Age	Birthplace
Obadiah W. Knight	42	Va.
Serena	28	Tenn.
William A.	15	"
John	14	"
Mary	11	"
Elizabeth	9	"
Gabriel	7	"
Laura	3	Texas
Martha	1	"
Gabriel B.	44	Va.

1860 CENSUS

O. W. Knight	52	Va.
S. C.	38	Tenn.
Gabriel	17	"
Laura	14	Texas
Martha A.	12	"
Monroe	10	"
Sarah C.	8	"
Amanda	6	"
Epps	2	"
Infant	½	"
William H.	4	"

* Bd. of Ed. Minutes, Vol. 15. p. 287

1870 CENSUS

Name	Age	Birthplace
Serena Knight	46	N. C.
Katie	17	Texas
William	16	"
Epps	11	"
Amanda	14	"
Robert	6	"
Archie	4	"
Gabe B.	67	Va.

In as much as Obadiah Knight died April 1, 1868, it will be noticed that his wife is listed at the head of the family in the 1870 census while Obadiah's brother's name is given as Gabe B. aged 67, at the foot of the list. Whether Serena C., the wife of Obadiah was born in N. C. or in Tenn. is left by the census as problematical. In the 1850 and 1860 censuses, her birthplace is given as Tenn., while in the 1870 census she gives her birthplace as North Carolina. R. E. L. Knight says he is certain that the birthplace of Serena was in North Carolina. Epps. G. Knight says that there is no doubt as to the birthplace of his mother. It was in Buncombe County, N. C.

Obadiah W. Knight was a member of a Methodist church in Tenn. Near Shelbyville there was a camp called the Knight Camp Ground named after Obadiah Knight. Obadiah was a devoted Christian and never failed to conduct family worship or Sunday morning prayers.

DESCENDANTS OF OBADIAH W. KNIGHT

DESCENDENTS OF OBADIAH KNIGHT

1. Obadiah Knight was born in Virginia in 1808. There is some doubt as to his parentage. From a study of the census records of Bedford County, Tennessee, we are led to the conclusion that William Knight, who was past 45 years of age in 1820, was his father. The census of 1820 of Bedford Co. gives the following:

William Knight's family

Males

Age 10-16	2m.
16-26	1m.
45-	1m.

Females

Age 16-26	1f.
45-	1f.

The three males between the ages of 10 and 26 may have been Epps, b. about 1803, Obadish, b. 1808, and Gabriel, b. 1806. It is a matter of record that the Knight famil lived in Bedford County, Tenn., before coming to Texas. That, together with the vact that Obadiah named his oldest son "William", supports the conjecture

that Obadiah's father was the William Knight above mentioned. It is well known by genealogists that in that period it was quite usual for a man to name the eldest son after his grandfather.

Obadiah Knight died in Dallas, Texas, April, 1868. He married first Mary Ann Knight. Second, he married Serena C. Hughes. By the first marriage he had five children, and by the second marriage, twelve children:

1.	William A. Knight	b. 1835
2.	John W. Knight (M.D.)	b. 1836
3.	Mary Knight	b. 1838
4.	Elizabeth Knight	b. 1841
5.	Gabriel Knight	b. 1842
6.	Laura Knight	b. 1846
7.	Martha Ann (Mattie) Knight	b. 1848
8.	Monroe Dacon Knight	b. 1850
9.	Sarah G. (Katie) Knight	b. 1853
10.	William H. Knight	b. 1854
11.	Margaret Amanda Knight	b. 1856
12.	Epps G. Knight	b. 1858
13.	Henry Knight	b. 1860
14.	Robert E. L. Knight	b. 1865
15.	Archie J. Knight	b. 1866
16.	Lulu Knight	b. ?
17.	Josie Knight	b. ?

2. William [2] Knight was b. in 1835 in Tennessee and died of pneumonia in 1862 at a Confederate Military camp, and was buried in Arkansas. Relatives in Dallas sent for the body and had it placed in the private cemetery of the family which joins the old Cochran Chapel. On this trip the man intrusted with the transferring of the remains nearly lost his life in attempting to ford the Red River. Horses and wagon were nearly swept away. William was in Nat Burford's regiment, Co. K. of the Texas Cavalry. He was a farmer residing about four miles north of Dallas on the old Preston Road. He married first, Mary Anne Stillwell (maiden name, Record), who died in 1858, and second, Mary Jame Armstrong, who, after the death of William A. in 1862, married W. M. Moon, sheriff of Dallas County two terms His first wife was a widow with two children: Mrs. Maggie Anderson, b. about 1852 who lived at Denison, Texas, and died about 1892, and George (Bud) Stilwell b. about 1854 d. 187 William A. had three children:

19. Gabriel [3] Bailey Knight was b. Feb. 11, 1857.

20. James [3] Knight was b. 1860 and d. about 1892. He worked for J. D. Aldridge Stationery Co., Dallas.

21. John [3] Knight was b. 1862, and d. about 1900. He was in hay and grain business with Gabe Knight until the time of his death.

3. John[2] W. Knight was b. in 1836 in Tennessee, and d. in 1870. He married Sally Stewart. He was a physician residing in Decatur, Texas. In 1863, he enrolled as a private in Co. K., 19th Texas Cavalry, Nat Burford's Regiment. Children:

22. Ava[3] Knight

23. William[3] Knight

4. Mary[2] Knight was b. Aug. 11, 1838. She was married on Jan. 18, 1858 to Nat M. Burford, a member of the Constitutional Convention. Nat Burford was b. June 24, 1824, in Smith County, Tennessee. Later he lived in Dixon Springs, Tenn. In 1846 he moved to Shreveport, La., and to Dallas in 1848.

In 1850 he was District Attorney. During the Civil War, he had command of a Texas Regiment and later was a judge in the civil courts of Dallas. He was the son of John H. Burford and Nancy McAlister, natives of North Carolina and Virginia, respectively. His father served as a captain in the was of 1812. Nat Burford died about 1888. Mary Knight and Nat M. Burford had eight children:

24. Mattie[3] Burford m. W. M. Freeman. Children:

    Maurice James[4] Freeman

    Nat Burford[4] Freeman, who d. in infancy.

    Charles Pace[4] Freeman

    Burford[4] Freeman, who is married and has a daughter, Martha Burford[5] Freeman, b. Oct. 8, 1915.

    William Anderson[4] Freeman, who enlisted in the World War when only 19, was gassed and his lungs were injured to the extent that tuberculosis followed, and he died ten years later in Colorado Springs on Nov. 3, 1931.

    All the living sons served in the World War. Res: Northwest Highway, Dallas, Texas.

25. Laura Frances[3] Burford was b. Sept., 1859 and d. in Nov., 1859.

26. Nat.[3] Burford, Jt. was b. Aug. 1865, and d. Aug. 1882.

27. Robert Lee[3] Burford was b. Dec. 22, 1868, and d. April 2, 1895.

28. Jeff Mallard[3] Burford was b. July 30, 1876, and d. March 24, 1895.

29. May[3] Burford m. J. P. Griffin, and had a son, James Burford[4] Griffin, b. July 25, 1916. They reside in Dallas Texas.

30. John McCoy[3] Burford was b. June 23, 1878, and d. August 18, 1879.

31. William G.[3] Burford was b. March 2, 1871, and d. Aug. 3, 1872.

5. Elizabeth[2] Knight was b. in 1841 and m. Capt. J. Mallard. They lived in Cherokee C., and had these children:

32. Nat[3] Mallard

33. Kate[3] Mallard who m. Dr. Jamesson, and had Kathleen, Bess, Mattie, Willie and Gladys.[4]

34. Jeff[3] Mallard

35. John[3] Mallard

36. Mary[3] Mallard

37. Knight[3] Mallard

6. Gabriel[2] Andrew Knight was b. in Shelbyville, Bedford Co, Tenn., July 10, 1842, came withe his father to Dallas in 1846. He joined the Confederate Army in Dallas in Capt. J. J. Good's Company, Col. Jas. P. Douglas. He was never wounded, never taken prisoner, never promotsd, in the twenty-four battles, Murfreesboro, Chickamaugue, Missionary Ridge, Atlanta, etc.[5] He went by his nickmane "Dood". He married Sept. 8, 1869, Hannah E. Jenkins of Dallas County, who was b. April 20, 1848 and d. Oct. 13, 1920. She was the daughter of William Jenkins, the first sheriff. He was public weigher in 1884, and for a time a member of the city council. Gabriel[2] A. Knight d. Feb. 6, 1814. He and Hannah had two children who died in infancy. Children:

38. Alma L.[3] Knight, b. Aug. 18, 1871,

m. James A. McNab, b. Jan. 28, 1897, and

d. Dec. 19, 1924. Children:

Helen[4] McNab, b. July 28, 1897, who m. Paul Simmons. Res: 3916 Shennon Lane.

Adeline[4] McNab, b. Nov. 20, 1899, who m. Paul McMahon, b. Sept. 27, 1897.

---

5. Yeary, Mamie, Reminiscences of the Boys in Gray, Cammil's Book Store, Austin, Texas, n. d.

39. William[3] Burford Knight, b. Feb. 13, 1874, and d. Mar. 10, 1922. He m. Minta Thurman on April 21, 1907, and had:

Mary Frances[4] Knight, b. August 17, 1915.

Alice[4] Knight, b. July 25, 1909.

James Andrew[4] Knight, b. Mayl, 1911.

William[4] Burford Knight, Jr., b. March 18, 1918.

40. Andrew[3] Knight was b. April 10, 1878. He first m. Lillian Gilbert on Oct. 2, 1913. She d. Nov. 2, 1922. Then he m. Mary Dixon on July 26, 1925, and had:

Andrew Gray[4] Knight, Jr., b. Oct. 21, 1926.

Emily Louise[4] Knight, b. Feb. 4, 1938.

Res: Dallas, Texas

41. John Jenkins[3] Knight, b. April 6, 1881, was lost in the desert in July, 1921.

42. Martha Alice[3] Knight was b. May 20, 1879. She m. Charles Davis Adams on Aug. 14, 1912. They had Charles Knight[4] Adams, b. July 21, 1914. They live at San Antonio, Texas.

43. Adelene[3] Knight was b. Oct. 20, 1884. on April 10, 1912, she m. Kleber V. Lipscomb, b. Sept. 14, 1884, a son of William Lipscomb, and they had Lucille[4] Knight Lipscomb, who was b. July 20, 1913.

44. Lucille[3] Leroy Knight was b. Jan. 25, 1890, and m. Arthur G. MacDonald on June 12, 1924, and had Joan Knight[4] MacSonald, b. March 31, 1928. Res: Sao Paulo, Brazil.

7. Laura[2] Knight, b. 1846, m. Dr. A. M. Cochran. They had a daughter Mamie Cochran who m. Harry Early.

45. Mamie[3] Cochran, who m. Harry Early and had:

Laura Epps[4] Early, who m. _____ Koonce, and had a daughter, Barbara[5] Koonce.

8. Martha Ann[2] Knight was b. Jan. 16, 1849, and d. Jan. 16, 1893. She m. Capt. William H. Hemmon, b. Feb. 25, 1840, d. Sept. 1893. Children:

46. Nannie 3 Lemmon was b. July 3, 1869, and m. W. C. Lemmon, b. Oct. 18, 1866, on Oct. 24, 1893. He was the president

of the Board of Education and is now (1932), County Commissioner. Children:

Mack Henry[4] Lemmon, b. May 15, 1898, who m. Carrie Pinson, and they had a son, Billie Mack[5] Henry Lemmon.

Helen[4] Lemmon was b. Dec. 12, 1899, and she m. R. S. Chapman, and they had a daughter, Nancy Philo[5] Chapman.

Martha[4] Lemmon was b. Sept. 10, 1905.

Billie[4] Lemmon (deceased) was b. May 4, 1902.

Matelle[4] Lemmon was b. May 28, 1890.

Frances[4] Lemmon was b. May 28, 1890.

Louise[4] Lemmon was b. April 1, 1895.

47. Rena[3] (deceased was b. March 18, 1871, and d. in k893.

48. Mary Kate[3] Lemmon was b. June 1873, and d. about 1895. She m. T. M. Cullum.

49. Mittie[3] Lemmon was b. April 9, 1877, and m. Mr. C. G. Holman. They lived in Dallas.

50. Mattie Louise[3] Lemmon (deceased).

51. W. H.[3] Lemmon, Jr. m. Rosa Lee Abbott, and had a daughter, Mary Serena[4] Lemmon, who was b. Aug. 8, 1909. She m. Edwin E. Alcott, Jr., and had Edwin E., III.

52. Eppie[3] Lemmon was b. Sept. 23, 1880, and

became the second wife of Harrison C. Early, who had previously married Mamie Cochran. They live in Highland Park.

9. Monroe[2] Knight was b. in 1850 and d. young. He was killed by a horse.

10. Katie[2] (Sarah Catherine) Knight was b. Sept. 23, 1853, and d. October 25, 1931. She m. John Field, b. about 1837, and d. about 1912. Children:

53. John[3] Field, Jr. (deceased)

54. Joe[3] Yancy Field, m. Rose Cockrell and had:

Mary Jane[4] Field

John[4] Field

Lucy Kate[4] Field

55. Elizabeth[3] Field m. Dr. Whitfield Harral. Children:

Martha Mildred[4] Harral, who m. W. H. Clark, Jr., and had W. H. [5], Clark, III.

Alice Tillar[4] Harral

56. Dr. Knight[3] W. Field, who d. in France during the World War.

57. Laura[3] Field m. Capt. James Gavin Field, (now deceased), Captain in the Navy. They had a daughter, Laura[4] Katherine. The widow and daughter live at Washington, D. C.

58. Tom[3] Field m. first Miss Janie Strait and they had one son, J. W.[4] Field, who lives at San Angelo, Texas. Then he married Miss Vivian Sadler. They live at Farmer's Branch. He is (1933) County Commissioner.

59. Kate[3] Field m. Dr. H. R. Carwile, and had a daughter, Katherine[4] Carwile, d. 1930 They live in Marshall, Texas.

60. Margaret[3] Field m. E. T. Waterworth, and had Elizabeth[4] and Earl[4]. They are now divorced.

61. Lucy[3] Field m. C. K. Bullard. They live at 4118 Hall St., Dallas, Texas.

62. Epps[3] Field m. Nottie Weston and they are divorced. Epps lives at Farmers Branch, Texas.

63. Serena[3] Field m. William Lee Carwile, brother of Dr. H. R. Carwile, and they had W. L.[4] Carwile, Jr.

11. Margaret Amanda[2] Knight was b. August 24, 1856. She m. Benjamin Bartlett Cannon, Jr. b. Oct. 12, 1843, d. May 20, 1924. They were m. Dec. 17, 1876. They lived in Weatherford, Texas many years and now (1932) reside at 718 Abram St., Arlington, Texas. Children:

64. Benjamin Bartlett[3] Cannon, III, b. July 4, 1879, d. Aug., 30, 1931. He married Estelle Ham on April 15, 1911. Children:

B. B.[4] Cannon, Iv.

Peggy[4] Cannon (Margaret Adelaide)

Ged Ham[4] Cannon.

They live at Ann Arbor, Michigan.

65. Bessie[3] Rena was b. Oct. 9, 1877, and m. Rufus Parker March on Dec. 10, 1909. Children:

Martha Margaret[4] March

Rufus[4] March, Jr.

They live in El Paso. (1932) P. O. Box, #15

66. Epps Knight[3] Cannon was b. March 8, 1881. He is a bachelor living at Arlington, Texas.

67. Ed Lee Cannon was b. Oct. 30, 1883. He m. Ardella Cannon. Res: Moran, Texas.

68. Archelous Ralph[3] Cannon was b. June 12, 1888. He m. Martha Ealzora Hatton on Jan. 19, 1916, and had James Benjamin[4] Cannon, who was b. April 24, 1919. Res: Arlington, Texas.

69. Frank Field[3] Cannon was b. July 14, 1894, and he m. Christine Marley. Res: Tulsa, Okla.

70. Katie May[3] Cannon was b. Jan. 13, 1892, and d. Nov. 30, 1898.

71. Horace Chilton[3] Cannon was b. Jan. 13, 1892, and d. March 12, 1893.

72. Maggie[3] Cannon was b. Aug. 23, 1896, and d. Dec. 12, 1897.

12. William Hughes[2] Knight was b. Nov. 30, 1854 and d. March 22, 1923. He m. Tabitha Elizabeth Turner, b. July 15, 1858, She d. Jan. 21, 1922. They resided in Hill County, Texas. Judge W. H. Knight was appointed to the State Pardon Board in Gover or Hobby's administration, a place which he held until the board was abolished by Governor Neff. For many years Mr. Knight had engaged in the cattle business in the Ash Creek District. Later he entered politics and was County Treasurer for two terms, County Tax Collector for two years and Mayor of Hillsboro. Children:

73. Dr. H. O.[3] Knight, b. Nov. 17, 1880, m. Bertha Helen Beissner, b. Aug. 22, 1892,

30, 1915. They live at Galveston, Texas (1932) where he is an instructor at State Medical College.

74. W. E.[3] Knight was b. Nov. 2, 1882. He m. Lutie Lock Copper, b. Aug. 8, 1883, on June 5, 1915.

75. R. E.[3] Knight was b. Dec. 20, 1884, and m. Kate Harper, b. Oct. 20, 1885. They were m. Nov. 5, 1913, and have children:

William Harper[4] Knight, b. June 11, 1915

Hugh Bob[4] Knight, b. Feb. 26, 1917.

Katherine Ann[4] Knight, b. Oct. 10, 1925.

76. Turner Thomas[3] Knight, b. May 13, 1887, m. Winnie LeFevere, b. Sept. 2, 1888, m. Nov. 26, 1912. Children:

Alene Elizabeth[4] Knight, b. April 10, 1915

Turner Thomas[4] Knight, Jr., b. March 16, 1919.

They live at Hillsboro, Texas (1932)

13. Epps G. Knight, who is still active in local politics and business, and who was selected to deliver the address of the evening at the dedication of the Obadiah Knight School, was the thirtheenth child.

EPPS G. KNIGHT

Dallas, Texas

of Obadiah Knight, and was born on the latter's farm on Feb. 25, 1858.

Epps Knight was reared in a frontier environment and had few advantages in the way of education. He did, however, attend the Old Rock Seminary in 1876-9, which was situated at Live Oak and Hawkins St. in East Dallas. He later in 1878-9 attended Marion College in Waxahachi. The former institution, was really a sort of mexed primary school and academy, or at least would be considered so today on the basis of curriculum. John R. Allen was the principal of each school. Attendance at such a school was, at the time, the typical education of a boy of a good family in Texas.

Though belonging to a well-to-do, land-holding family, Epps, as a boy was not exempt from the customary chores of the farmer lad. One of his favorite anecdotes is how, back around 1868 or 1870, he used to ride into town every day on his sorrel pony "Fiddlesticks" and deliver to the old Crutchfield House, then Dallas's only hotel, four gallons of milk, a pail of butter, and a box of eggs. It was upon one such trip as this that Mr. Knight saw his first railroad train.

On Jan. 13, 1887, Mr. Knight was m. to Fannie L. Patton, the daughter of Wm. A. and Harriet Minerva Patton. The Pattons came to Dallas County considerably later than the Knights, but were, nevertheless, considered one of the pioneer families. They came to Texas from Alabama, and established their homestead on the ground now occupied by the Majestic Theater, Dunlop-Swain Motor Co., and other present-day business houses on Elm St. and Pacific Ave. To this couple were born ten children five boys, and five girls.

Mr. Knight has been very active bothe in political life and civic improvement. He has been a member of the Chamber of Commerce, and the old 150,000 Club, whose objective was a population of 150,000for the city of Dallas, and the Citizens' Association, which was responsible for the adoption of the commission form of government by Dallas. Among the official posts which he has held, have been County Tax Collector, (1896-1902), and Chief of Police (1904-19 05). The latter office was thrust upon him because of lawlessness in the town. It was during Mr. Knight's term of office in the later capacity that the famous cas

of Holly Vann and Burrel Oates occured, and the long proceedings that finally, five years later resulted in the execution of the former, were begun. It was principally, however, as the terror of the gamblers that then infested the city that Mr. Knight became famous. Disregarding repeated threats against his life, Mr. Knight would fearlessly enter the "hang-outs" of these gamblers, round them up at the point of a six-shooter, and take them down to the jail by the wagon-load after a large raid. And even more remarkable for a chief of police, he was responsible for the reformation of many of thes desparados, not hesitating to bring them into his own home.

Finally, in addition to his public services, Mr. Knight has also been a successful and enterprising business man, making a tidy fortune in the Burk Burnett oil field. At present, he is owner of the Knights' Motor Hotel on N. St. Paul, where he is in business with his son Edgar C. Knight as manager.

Mr. Knight continues to live at his old family residence, 3617 Cedar Springs Road,

A few facts regarding Epps G. Knight are of interest. He contributed to the first cotton mill established in Dallas in the 80's. He took stock in the Dallas News at the time it was removed from Galveston to Dallas. He was one of the stock holders in the Oriental Hotel and was one of the members of the original club that founded Southern Methodist University. He contributed $2000,00 for the establishment of the Methodist Hospital and $2000.00 for the erection of the Majestic Theater. He was one of the original promotbrs of the Dallas Athletic Club and for 20 years was president of the Dallas County Pioneers Association and of the Times Herald Half-Century Club. He was sent 30 times to the annual conference of the Methodist Church and was twice elected to the general conference. He was on the board of directors for the maintenance of a Methodist Orphanage at Waco and vice-president of the Irby State Mission. He aided, by his generosity, in putting the State Fair of Texas on a paying basis and was was one of 25 men to give a note for $4000,00 to guarantee its continuance.

77. Mattie[3] Lee Knight was b. Oct. 18, 1887, and d. in 1888

78. Browning[3] Knight, b. Mar. 9,1889. Bachelor lives at 3617 Cedar Springs. Has been with the U. S. P. Of. in Dallas for fifteen years.

79. William Hughes[3] Knight, b. March 11, 1891 attended Southwestern Univ. and took his LL.B. degree at the University of Texas. He is now Assistant City Attorney of Dallas. On June 16, 1923, he m. Ruth DeWitt, b. Jan. 4, 1898

Children:

Betty Ruth[4] Knight,b. July 2, 1923

Gloria Gene[4] Knight, b. Sept. 22, 1927

Marjorie Ann[4] Knight, b. Jan,4, 1930

80. Kathleen[3] Knight b. Oct. 19, 1892, attended Kidd Key College and Virginia Inst. On June 16, 1916 she m. J. Rober Hill. They had:

Fannie Lee[4] Hill, b. May 7, 1917

Majorie[4] Hill, b. June 6, 1918, d. Feb.25,1922

William Epps[4] Hill, b. Aug. 31, 1919

Jean[4] Hill, b. June 1, 1921

Allan[4] Hill, b. Mar. 6, 1929

J. Robert Hill Jr., b. April 24, 1915
He was by a former marriage

J. Robert Hill Sr., has been in the business in Dallas for the past forty years.

81. Ruby Knight, b. Dec. 10, 1894, attended Univ. of Texas and Southern Methodist Univ. On Nov. 25, 1931, she m. Robley D. Matthews, who after graduating from Kansas State Teachers College, attended the Univ. of Michigan. He is now the Southwestern representative of the Central Scientific Company of Chicago. They l live in Dallas.

82. Edgar Clarence[3] Knight, b. July 27,, 1897, after attending Southern Methodist University, and graduating in pharmacy at Baylor Medical School, took his Ph.C. degree with honors at the Philadelphia School of Pharmacy. He was a professor in the Baylor School of Pharmacy until 1930, when he went into business with his father as manager of the Knight Motor Hotel. In October 1924 he m. Shelila Boren.

83. George Stuart[3] Knight, b. Feb.8, 1899, m. Dorothy Weedom of Chicago, on May 15, 1920.

Children:

Serena[4] Knight, b. April 4, 1921

George S.[4] Knight Jr. b. Sept. 1, 1924, d. June 1925. He has been associated with Brewer Undertaking Co. for the past ten years.

84. Fannie Louise[3] Knight, b. May 14, 1901, took her B.S. degree from fouthern Methodist Univ. and taught at Burleson College and St. Mary's College for four years. On June 2, 1925, she m. Edwin J. Foscue.

He holds the following degrees: A.B. Southern Methodist Univ.: M. S. Univ. of Chicago, and Ph.D. Clark University, and has been a professor of Geology and Geography at Southern Methodist University since 1923.

85. Hattie May[3] Knight, b. Nov. 27, 1902, took her B.S. from Southern Methodist University of Minn. She has taught school in South Texas for several years.

86. Earl Gordon[3] Knight, b. Aug. 5, 1906, attendd Texas A&M Colleg and Univ. of Okla. Due to an accident he has been an invalid, and has been confined to his home for the past eight years.

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14. Henry[2] Knight was b. in 1860. He died young.

15. Robert E. Lee[3] Knight was b. April 7, 1865 in Dallas. He was the son of Obadiah W. Knight, and Serena Hughes Knight. He was reised on a farm four miles northwest of Dallas where his parents located in 1846. He had advantage of the meagre common school training of this frontier country, and at severnteen he entered Southerwestern Univ. where he took his M. A. Degree in 1886. Entering the Univ. of Texas that same year, he took his LL.B. 1888, and subsequently finished

R. E. L. KNIGHT
Dallas, Texas

graduate work under the law lecturer, John B. Minor at the Univ. of Virginia.

He began his practice in Dallas in Jan. 1889, and in 1890 he married Anne Armstrong, the daughter of Thomas Elias Armstrong and Sarah Lawrence of Brazos County, Texas. Of that union six children were born.

During the W. War, R. E. L. Knight served as a member of the Council of National Defense. All of his sons were in the army, and three of them were on the firing line in France.

He was a member of the City School Board during the period in whichProfessor J. L. Long, was superintendent, and it was in this administration that the foundation was effectively laid for the present admirable City School System.

For three years he was President of the State Fair of Texas, and at the expiration of his term of office a sinking fund of $90,000 had been created. He since has been for over thirty years the Vice-President and a Director of the National Bank of Commerce, and is

a member of the firm of Thompson, Knight, Baker, and Harris.

Ann Armstrong Knight was b. August 19, 1867. she was a graduate of Hamilton College, Lexington, Ky., and then went to Vassar. She and R. E. L.[2] Knight had six children:

86. Thomas A.[3] Knight was b. June 11, 1892, and he m. Marion Ralston, b. Jan. 14, 1896, daughter of Robert Ralston, They were m. Jan. 31, 1921. T. A. Knight went to the University of Texas, where he was a Phi Beta Kappa, and then he attended Harvard Law School. Res: 3715 Dartmouth, Dallas Texas. Children:

    Ann A.[4] Knight was b. Feb. 20,1922

    Marian [4] Knight was b. Feb. 17, 1924

87. R. E. L.[3] Knight, Jr. was b. Oct. 16, 1894. He attended the University of Texas, and the Business School of Administration at Harvard. During the World War he was decorated for bravery at Chateau Thiery when he was sent back to instruct the troops. He m. Geraldine Wilson Knight, b. in 1896.

He died about April 1, 1929. They had no children. Their residence was Dallas. His widow, Geraldine Wilson Knight m. Benjamin Smith and resides in New York.

88. Marion[3] Knight was b. April 5, 1898. He is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin and the Harvard Business School. On May 5, 1926, he m. Elizabeth Buell, b. July 16, 1904. Res: 3529 Mockingbird Lane, Dallas. Children:

Robert E.L.[4] Knight,III, b. Feb.19, 1927

Marion[4] Knight, Jr., b. Nov. 12, 1929

David Buell[4] Knight, b. March 16, 1931

89. Mary Watts[3] Knight was b. Feb. 16, 1893 She attended the University of Texas for two years. She married Dr. Chas. W. Flynn, Jr. Born March 26, 1883, son Chas. W. Flynn and Edith Denham on the Egypt Plantation, La. They were married Nov. 10, 1917. He is a graduate of the University of La. and the University of Pennsylvania. He graduated in madicine.

Res: 2812 Maple Ave. Children:

Charles W.[4] Flynn, III was b. Nov. 23, 1918

Ann[4] Flynn was b. Sept. 11, 1920, and d. young.

90. Henry Coke[3] Knight was b. June 1, 1894. He graduated from the University of Texas, and then went to the Architectural School of Harvard. He is unmarried. Res: 2904 Maple Ave.

91. Richard A.[3] Knight was b. Aug. 7, 1899. He graduated from the University of Texas where he was a Phi Beta Kappa, and then attended the Harvard Law School. He is now a lawyer in New York City. He is unmarried. Res: St. Regis, Hotel, New York City, N. Y.

16. Archelaus[2] Knight, born Dallas County, Feb. 19, 1866, d. April, 14, 1930. He was educated in Dallas County Schools and later at Georgetown University and Eastman Business College at Poughkeepsie, New York. He was a member of the pioneer Realty firm of Aldredge & Knight. He was a member of the original committee which installed the commission form of government in Dallas and always was interested in good government. He married, Jessie Kate Newton, daughter of an Ellis County Pioneer family October 11, 1892.

Children:

92. Walter[3] Epps Knight b. July, 20, 1893. d. April 20, 1894.

93. Eugene Burton[3] Knight b. June 21, 1901. Educated in the Dallas Public Schools and University of Texas. He has been continously in the insurance business in Dallas for over ten years being at present associated with the oldest insurance office in Dallas, Charles L. Dexter & Co. He is actively interested in civic affairs, having been president of the Dallas Junior Chamber of Commerce and a Director of the Dallas Civic Federation for the past four years.

94. Harold Strong[3] Knight b. Dec. 21, 1904, and d. Dec. 2, 1906.

This branch of the family have all been Methodists and have been active in church work; in politics, they vote Democratic.

17. Lulu[2] Knight, d. young.

was b. in Dallas, Texas, Feb. 11, 1857. His mother died when he was a year old and his father when he was five. He lived with his grandfather till he was eleven when his grandfather died. He then lived with five different relatives a year or more each until grown. He was in the hay and grain business about 33 years in Dallas. He first m. Kate Gibbs, April 18, 1883 daughter of Dr. J. H. Gibbs. She was b. at Mobile, Ala. d. in 1887. He m. second Dec. 24, 1889, Ellie Elizabeth Swaim, b. June 10, 1864, d. Feb. 27, 1913. She was the daughter of Richard Swaim and was b. in Limestone County, near Groesbeck. Third he m. Alva May Owen of Dallas, Texas. She was b. March 13, 1872, at Clarksville, Montgomery County, Tenn. the daughter of Rev. W.D. Owen.

Children: by his first wife:

95. J. Gibbs[4] Knight, b. March 24, 1884.

He. m. Vera Alford of Austin, Texas. J. G. Knight is special agent for the National Fire Ins. Co. and lives at Little Rock, Ark.

Children:

Kathryne Gene[5] Knight, b. Dec. 2, 1919

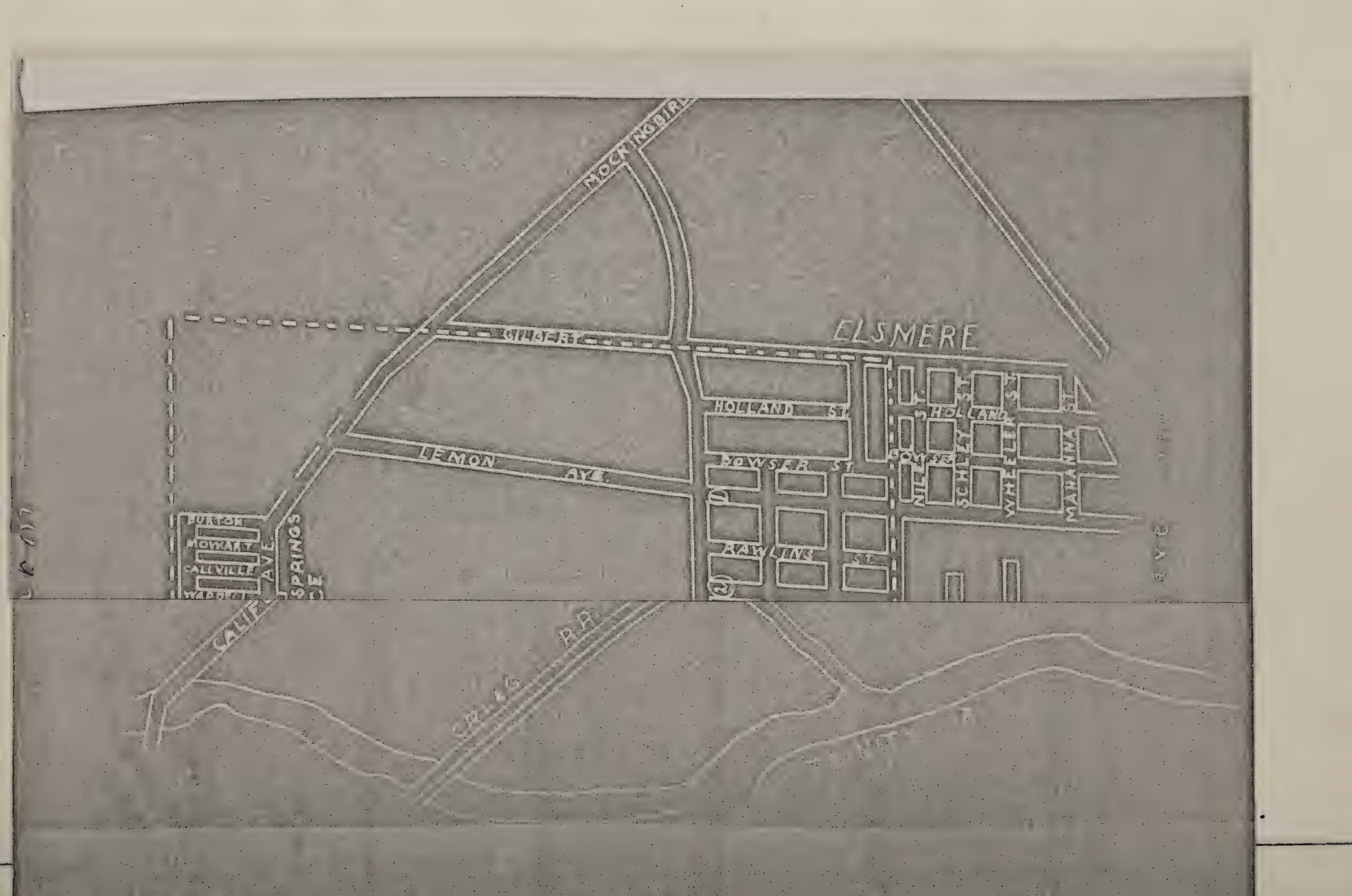
Vera Lee[5] Knight, b. Jan. 1927. By his second wife.

96. Albert S.[4] Knight was b. Dec. 22, 1890. He m. Hulda O Hammerlund, of Spokane, Washington. They live in Seattle, Washington. They have

no children.

97. Howard B.[4] Knight was b. Oct. 16, 1895, and was m. July 9, 1924 to Fannie May McFarland of Dallas, Tex. They have Mary Elizabeth[5] Knight, b. May 30, 1926, and John Howard[5] Knight, b. Oct. 23, 1928. Mr. Knight is an accountant in the employ of the Dallas Board of Education.

98. Ernest Powell[4] Knight was b. June 5, 1903 Res: Dallas, Texas. Unmarried.


MOCKINGBIRD
GILBERT
ELSMERE
HOLLAND ST.
HOLLAND
LEMON AVE.
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RAWLINS ST.
BURTON
MOWART
CALLVILLE
WABASH
CALIF. AVE
SPRINGS
C.R.I. & P. R.R.
NILES ST.
SCHLEY ST.
WHEELER ST.
MAHANNA

The Obadiah Knight Farm

THE OBADIAH KNIGHT FARM

THE OBADIAH KNIGHT FARM

The boundaries shown on the accompanying map represent the farm of Obadiah Knight at its greatest area, that is after 1868, when it comprised a total 1061.2 acres.

The original holding of the Knight family in Dallas County was acquired by Gabriel B. Knight, who on February 26, 1846, purchased 640 acres of land for $640.00 from Miles Bennett, who, in a patent of April 21, 1845, had received nearly one third of a leafue from the Republic of Texas.

On September 21, 1847, Obadiah Knight bought 480 acres of his brother's holding for $480.00. This was the original Knight farm and lay northwest of Maple Lawn Road.

It was enlarged upon December 27, 1851, when Obadiah Knight bought 164.1 acres of land from James Grigsby for $225, and again on Novenber 9, 1852, when he bought 157.1 acres from Robert H. Grigsby for $314.00. Finally on January 31, 1866 Gabriel Knight deeded him 260 additional acres in return for a guarantee of support during the remainder of the former's natural life.

The agreement between the two brothers was as follows: In return for the 260 acres of land Obadiah Knight undertook "to support, that is to say, to furnish good clothing, and was for, and provide for the comfortable maintenance of the said G. B. Knight during his natural life. The clothing that is to be furnished, to be substantial and comfortable such as he is accustomed to wear. And should the G. B. Knight live longer than myself, then in that case my heirs and legal representatives are to make full provision for the comfortable support of the said G. B. Knight out of my estate."

This final grant from Gabriel B. Knight extended the farm to Mockingbird Lane as shownon the map. Three acres of it was a year later, on Aug. 22, 1867, donated by Obadiah Knight for a school, of which he became one of the trustees. The other trustees were G. W. Record, T. C. Williams, John Howell, and W. H. Hughes.

These various purchases may be found in the records of Dallas County: Vol. A., pp,88, 100; Vol. B., 0.2; Vol. C.,pp. 31, 288; Vol. J., p.121.

AMERICAN ANCESTRY OF SERENA C. HUGHES
WIFE OF OBADIAH W. KNIGHT

Orlando[1] Hughes with brothers William and Leander came from Wales to Virginia about 1700.

Leander[2] Hughes. Will dated 1775 and proved June 26, 1775. b. Powhatan Co., Va.

Archelaus[3] Hughes. b. Goochland Co., Va. in 1747 m. Mary Dalton of Mayo, Sept. 25, 1789. She was daughter of Samuel Dalton, commanded a Virginia regiment during the Revolution.

William[4] Hughes b. June 13, 1785. He nearly moved to Stokes County, N.C. In 1828 he moved to Maury Co., Tenn. William Hughes married, 1st, Susana Moore 1789-1809.

1. Samule Moore Hughes
2. Susanah Moore Hughes

William Hughes m. 2nd, Alsy Carr Dec. 30, 1810, Children:

3. Archelaus Madison Hughes b. Nov. 20, 1811
4. Elizabeth Dalton Hughes b. March 20, 1813
5. m. Geo. W. Record. She d. 1835.
5. John Fendall Hughes b. Sept. 30, 1814 m. twice.
6. Mary Hughes, b. Feb. 16, 1816 m. Isaac D. Webb. She died 1887
7. Nancy Jane Hughes, b. Oct. 24, 1817 m. William Cochran
8. Sarah Matilda Hughes, b. March 24, 1819 m. Thomas C. Williams
9. Aisley Amanda Hughes, b. Nov. 20, 1820 m. Geo. W. Record
10. Serena Caroline Hughes b. Sept. 30, 1822 m. Obadiah W. Knight. She d. 1913
11. Margaret Morris Hughes, b. Feb. 14, 1824 m. John B. Bachman, she d. 1906
12. Martha Letitia Hughes, b. Jan, 7, 1826 m. Levi Dennis
13. William Holmes Hughes, b. Jan. 27, 1828 m. Zuleika Ruthe Kittreill. He d. 1916
14. Anne Mariah Hughes b. May 8, 1829 m. William Doss
15. David Lender Hughes, b. June 19, 1921 d. young.

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